

SPORTS

A draw equal to a dozen of wins

If we judge by the score alone, which is now 4-3 in Anatoly Karpov's favour, then we can say that nothing substantial has happened at the chess world title match these last few days. As the reader must have already guessed the 7th game between the world champion and Garry Kasparov has ended in a draw and the one-point margin has been retained.

All that is as it may be, but it was precisely the drawn seventh game that made chess history. I, probably, will not be mistaken if I say that this game is bound to be included in voluminous monographs devoted to the ancient game.

In the game the challenger played White. The game as in the first game, in which Karpov suffered defeat, the players chose the Nimzowits defence. But, of course, it was a new interpretation, offered by the champion already on the fourth move. Nevertheless, White managed to gain an advantage the

modification notwithstanding and Black's King was jeopardized. In this situation Karpov resorted to a calculated risk. He seemed to be "leading with his chin" making his King's situation even more precarious. This confessed Kasparov who started choosing far from the best moves to make. And as time passed it was already Black who had the advantage. Now Karpov already could win. However, another "but" developed. The champion (who was in a very bad time trouble by the end of the game) also started making for from the best moves in the intricate game. And then came the excellent outcome. Kasparov, realizing that Black still could be a nuisance to White, lost the exchange and forced a draw with an endless check!

It was a draw, again, a draw, but of a kind equal to not one, or even two, but, maybe, a dozen wins!

Viktor BABKIN, chess commentator

Cramling is the last challenger

Pia Cramling, the well-known Swedish woman chess player, is the eighth and last participant in the tournament. The challengers for the world women's chess title which is to be held early next year. She won the additional match-tournament held between three participants in the international tournament in Havana. The additional match was played in the Swedish capital. The three players in Havana shared the 3rd-5th places (three winners at an international tournament are

qualified for further competition among women. In Havana Soviet players Nana Alexandria and Yelena Akhmedovskaya were the other two winners.

Nana Iosellani (USSR) and Dana Nuts (Romania) played with Cramling in the additional match. Four rounds were played. Here are the results of the match: Cramling 5.5 out of 8 points, Iosellani — 4.5 and Nuts — 2. Now all the participants in the future women's challengers' tournament are known. They are Irina Levitina, Lydia Semyonova, Nana Alexandria, Yelena Akhmedovskaya, Maria Ulitskaya (all USSR), Wu Mincan (PRC), Agnieszka Brustman (Poland) and Pia Cramling.

Modest results in the Tour de l'Avenir

Martin Ramirez (Colombia), who was the best at the difficult mountain stages, won the 23rd Tour de l'Avenir, the most prestigious race for young cyclists which is held in France. Sergei Usmanin, who was the best among the Soviet entries, placed 16th.

The only consolation was that Alexander Zinovyev, another Soviet cyclist, was recognized as the most active racer at the Tour de l'Avenir.

Samuel Cabrera (Colombia) got the little "mountain king" and was awarded the prize "For the Will for Victory".

The Varis team of pros from Colombia won the team scoring. The USSR team placed 11th.



The sports club of the Moscow Engineering-Physics Institute sponsored this competition in moto-cross. Telling part were more than 200 riders from Moscow, Leningrad and other Soviet cities. Riders from the Levist Komono! Car Works in Moscow won the team scoring.

Photo by Sergei Proskov

COMPETITION STIFFENS IN RUGBY



At the Slava vs Aviator rugby match.

Photo by Pyotr Sergeyev

The nearer the finish of the national rugby championship, the stiffer is the competition in the struggle for the medals.

The leader in the championship, the Yuri Gagarin Air Force Academy (AFA) from Moscow Region has played two important matches away from home. It won one and lost another game against Kuznetsov. The AFA coaches can hardly be pleased with the results due to the loss of very important points which has shrunk the margin over the others.

To remind the reader, in the preceding round the AFA lost two games to Slava of the 21 Moscow Watch Factory, who are breathing down the leaders' neck. AFA now has 88 points, and one can understand the alarm of the coaches whose players are showing poor play at the finish.

Slava, which is the runner-up, has scored two important victories over Kiev Aviator, one of the hopefuls for the championship's medals. Slava now has 91 points. Strelit — 89 and Aviator — 73.

Who is to get the medals will be decided in the last matches which all the teams will try to play without loss.

ATHLETES WIN CONFIDENTLY

The USSR athletics team confidently won the two-day match with the US and Japan teams, held at a Tokyo national stadium. The final score in the USSR and USA competition was 221-164 in favour of the Soviet athletes and in the USSR-Japan match it was 258-127 also in the USSR favour. The second day of the match was completely dominated by the Soviet women athletes who made a clean sweep in all the events of the programme.

This was the Soviet athletes' 15th victory in their traditional matches with the US track-and-field athletes, which are held over since 1958.

One more Peace Race

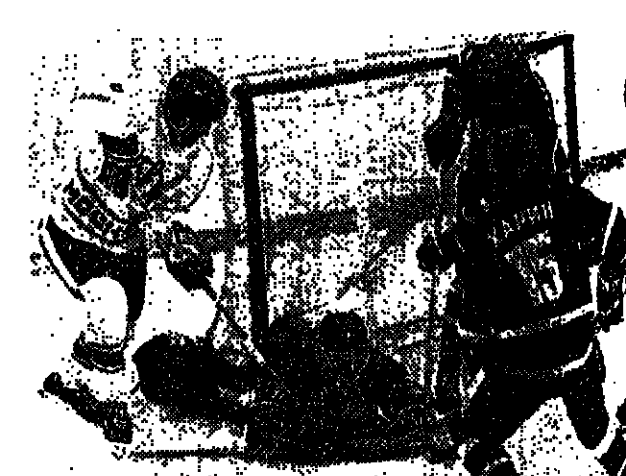
The Baltic Peace Cycle Race is the name of a new major international sports competition, which will be held under the badge of strengthening peace and friendship among nations.

Turku, a major administrative, industrial and cultural centre of Finland, and its twinned city—Leningrad initiated the holding of this race, Leningrad and Turku were among the first cities in the world to get twinned in 1953.

A NIGHT OF RECORDS

Three new world records were established on Sunday night in the GDR capital where the Republic's athletes held competitions in track-and-field events. Ulf Timmermann put the shot at 22.62 m, 40 cm better than the world record, established two years ago by Udo Beyer, Ulf's countryman. The GDR athletes hold the shot put world high ever since 1978.

Sabine Busch covered the 400 m hurdles in 53.50 sec, 0.2 sec better than last year's achievement by Margareta Knutson from Leningrad. Lastly, Heike Drechsler long jumped 7.44 m, a centimetre better than Anyoara Cuatrecasas from Romania did in 1983. The last wind during the jump did not exceed 2 mps, a velocity which allows to register a new world record.



A scurry at the gates of the Moscow Krylya Sovetov ice-hockey team in the game it played versus the Moscow Dynamo, runner-up at the last year's national championship. The Dynamo was 3-2, demonstrating an attacking style already at the outset of the game.

Photo by Boris Kozlov

New head of Soviet Government

Nikolai RYZHIKOV has been appointed Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers in place of Nikolai Tikhonov who has signed on health grounds.



Nikolai RYZHIKOV.

Conditions to grant Nikolai Tikhonov's request to appoint Nikolai Ryzhikov to the post were a regular meeting of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet held on September 27 under the chairmanship of Andrei Gromyko. The proposal to appoint Nikolai Ryzhikov as Chairman of the Council of Ministers was made by Mikhail Gorbachev on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee. It was unanimously supported by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

Nikolai Ryzhikov, 56, became Secretary of the Central Committee in November 1982 and a member of the Politbureau in July 1985. In his career he has been shift foreman at the Gorkhizkizlitz Heavy Engineering Factory and later Director General of the Uralskneft Association. For several years he held the post of Vice-Chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee.

His letter to Mikhail Gorbachev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Nikolai Ryzhikov stated that his health had rapidly been improving, and that doctors had insistently urged, after consultations, that he should resume active work. "I am infinitely grateful to

the Communist Party for everything it has done for me," he wrote. In his letter he made a special mention of the comradeship atmosphere created in the Politbureau over the past few months. The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet noted Nikolai Tikhonov's major contribution to the management of the economic, social and cultural development of the Soviet Union.

A meeting has been held in Moscow to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. A number of greetings from the CPSU Central Committee to the society's delegates states:

"We highly value the dedication and selfless work done by the foreign friendship societies and millions of friends who tell the popular masses the truth about the USSR and its foreign policy of peace, work for greater friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. They can count on complete understanding and support of the Soviet public.

The meeting was addressed by CPSU Central Committee Secretary Boris Ponomarev as well as the Chairwoman of the Union of Societies Zinaida Kruglova.

SIXTY YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP

The system of friendship organizations set up in the Soviet Union with the USSR Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries as its predecessor enables us to hold about sixty thousand various events annually to provide a broad channel for information from which the Soviet public can learn about the contemporary life and culture of the other nations; it also contributes to the internationalist education of the Soviet people. This system promotes the broad links maintained by the Union with ten thousand foreign public, governmental, cultural, educational and scientific organizations and associations; political parties;

local government agencies, universities and other educational establishments; individual statesmen, public figures as well as people of science and culture in more than 140 countries. It was very important for our delegation to make closer acquaintance with your colleagues, said William Wilson, Chairman of the British-Soviet Friendship Society. After our meeting with members of friendship societies in the Western countries we see in the movement of the country's peace policy. We also appreciate its commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

The latest Soviet Initiative on a moratorium on all types of nuclear tests demonstrates the country's peace policy. We also appreciate its commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

meeting. For us it is a double celebration as it coincides with the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Association. Today, we have nearly five thousand members and branches in 42 Canadian cities. In turn John Cherveni, President of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship has said:

The latest Soviet Initiative on a moratorium on all types of nuclear tests demonstrates the country's peace policy. We also appreciate its commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

FACTS AND EVENTS

Mass felling of trees in the Amazon area in Brazil has led to the disappearance of unique tropical forests over an area of three million hectares. The Brazilian single, which has fifteen per cent of the world's fauna, accounts for nearly one-third of the tropical rain forests of the globe. Brazilian scientists believe that if the mass destruction of the Amazon jungle is not halted, there will be an ecological disaster in the area around the world's largest river.

The indigenous population of the Chilean Easter Island have strongly condemned an agreement signed between the Pinochet regime and the American administration. The US intends to build a military base on the island. Otto Chavez, an elder of the Rapa Nui tribe, says this deal is another act of aggression against the land of the natives.

The fourth lengthy expedition in Salyut 7 began on June 8, 1985, after the docking with the station was successfully effected by the crew of the Soyuz T-13 spacecraft. During the flight, Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Viktor Savitsky put the station in good working condition.

The cosmonauts have implemented a large-scale programme of scientific and technological research. They walked in space and assembled additional solar packs.

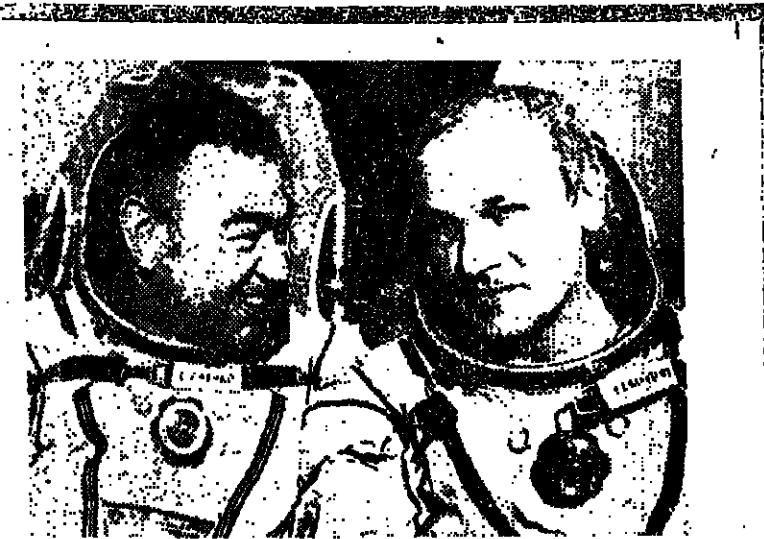
The partial relief of the crew, effected for the first time ever ensures continuous maintenance of the piloted space complex over a long period of time and essentially increases the efficiency of its use in the interests of science and the national economy.

Lasting peace is peace for all

New York. It is only possible to rid mankind of the threat looming ahead by uniting the efforts of all the states. That this is true is borne out by the experience of the anti-fascist coalition during World War II and the very existence of the United Nations, which is inseparably linked with the great Victory won by freedom-loving peoples in that war.

This was pointed out by the USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs, Eduard Shevardnadze, in his address at the ceremonial meeting between foreign ministers at the UN Security Council marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations.

(Continued on page 8)



Cosmonauts Vladimir Dzhanibekov (right) and Georgi Grechko after landing.

POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee has discussed the Party's new draft Programme worked out on the basis of a decision taken by its 26th Congress. The meeting noted that the draft, presented to the Politbureau, reflects the main trends in the country's domestic development and in the international situation; that it takes into account the experience accumulated by the Party since the adoption of the present Programme. It was stated that the draft is based on the sets of goals put forward at the April 1985 Plenary Meeting of the CPSU Central Committee and at a conference on the acceleration of progress in science and technology. This makes it possible to determine more precisely and specifically, the prospects for the development of Soviet society and ways and means for the achievement of our supreme goal — Communism. In this respect underscored is the primary

(Continued on page 2)

Two back from orbit, THREE STAY ON

Another step has been concluded in the work on board the orbital scientific station Salyut 7. After completing the programme of joint research experiments, Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Georgi Grechko have returned to Earth in the Salyut T-13 spacecraft. Vladimir Vasutin, Viktor Savitsky and Alexander Volkov however continue to work on board the piloted complex Salyut 7-Soyuz T-14.

Brought to Earth are materials relating to research and experiments conducted in the course of the lengthy flight of Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Viktor Savitsky, and also during the period of joint work by the five cosmonauts. The information received will find application in the advancement of science and in different branches of the national economy.

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Round the Soviet Union

ARMENIAN FILM MAKERS HAVE RELEASED A FILM ABOUT THE LIFE AND WORK OF NORWEGIAN POLAR EXPLORER FRIDTJOF NANSEN. The materials used in the film include numerous archive documents, recollections by contemporaries and newsreels of the time as well as photographs which Nansen made when he visited Armenia. The film is called, "A Passport to Eternity".

THE MIR PUBLISHERS OF MOSCOW HAVE COME OUT WITH A BOOK CALLED "THE NIGHT AFTER". It contains articles by Soviet scientists edited by Academician Yevgeny V. Ikhov and is about the climatic and biological consequences of nuclear war.

IN Leningrad, PREPARATIONS ARE BEING COMPLETED FOR LAUNCHING OF THE 31st SOVIET ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION, WHICH IS TO UNDERTAKE A LONG VOYAGE IN OCTOBER. This is so far the biggest Antarctic expedition: it consists of seven hundred winter explorers, as well as other seasonal groups.

GEOLOGISTS HAVE DESCRIBED AS PERSPECTIVE, IN TERMS OF OIL AND GAS SUPPLIES, ANOTHER LAYER OF EARTH IN WESTERN SIBERIA. They have discovered wells rich in these precious raw materials below the layers where extraction work is now going on. The researchers believe that by the end of the next five-year development plan oil will be pumped out from much lower depths.

The highest chimney

The world's highest gas bleeder is being built at the Ekibastuz fuel-and-energy complex in Kazakhstan. The chimney of the second heat-and-power plant of the unique cascade already looks impressive. Resembling a rocket with its reinforced concrete "stabilizers" of the basement, it rises above the steppe high into the skies. As to the design its "height" is 420 metres. Experts believe that at such a height the particles of ash being emitted from coal boilers become practically harmless.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

DIFFICULT ROAD TO YAKUTIA'S WEALTH

A decision has been taken to build a new railway line to connect the Baidar-Amur Mainline (BAM) with Yakutsk, capital of the Yakut Autonomous Republic, PRAVDA reports.

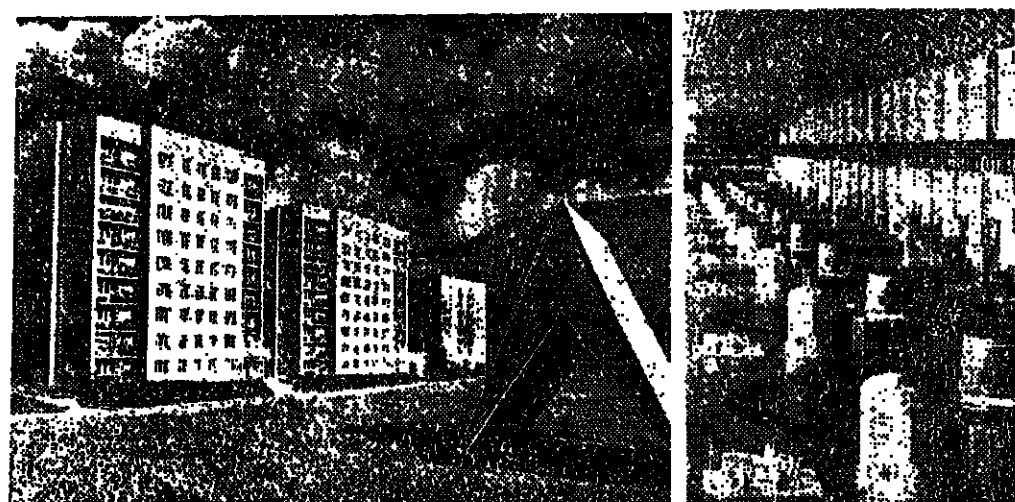
Yakutia is located in the eastern part of the USSR Extreme North. The proposed railway line will open up the approaches to mineral deposits of the region. It will cross almost the whole of Yakutia and two districts of the Magadan Region in the Soviet Far East. The total surface of the area adjacent to the proposed railway line is more than 3,000,000 square kilometres. Gold, diamonds, polymetallic ores, coal, and mica are being extracted there. Geologists believe that major deposits of gas and oil are concentrated in Yakutia's subsoil. Timber resources in the area amount to 15 per cent of the country's total.

The jewel of South Yakutia are coking coals, the newspaper notes. Coal seams up to 80 metres thick are lying close to the very surface of the earth. Several coal mines, with a total output of 6,000,000 tonnes, are expected to be put into operation there. The coal extraction will reach there 25-30 million tonnes annually by the end of the current century.

In close proximity to the coal basin rich iron ore deposits have been discovered.

To build a 630-kilometre railway line—Amur-Yakutsk—about 100 million cubic metres of earth will have to be moved, including rock and permafrost. The length of embankment will be 704 kilometres, of cuttings—126 kilometres. More than 700 artificial crossings, including about 200 bridges, will have to be built. Among them will be several major ones across the Aldan, Amga and Lena rivers.

City at the foot of 'Wondrous Mountains'



Young Pioneers Square with a granite memorial lent was so named to commemorate Dniprogorodsk founders.

At the Kramoyarskaya hydropower station.

The city's rising generation.

Hydrological research on the Yenisei.



There are ancient cities the origins of which are subject of scholarly hypotheses and debates between archaeologists who excavate such places and very carefully read ancient manuscripts in search of historical evidence. Other towns were built only a few decades ago and their story begins like this: "A man came to a place, put up his tent and set about building a major project." This is exactly the story of the Siberian city of Dniprogorodsk on the banks of the Yenisei River. Less than thirty years ago the construction of the Kramoyarsk power project (one of the largest sections of its type in the world) started here.

Dniprogorodsk means wondrous mountainous town. This name was given to a settlement of the builders, as it then was, and derives from the place where it stands, Dniprogorodsk — the Land of Wondrous Mountains — the beautiful bluish hills striking along the left bank of the river. For a long time the Kramoyarsk project has been generating electricity. Scientific and industrial establishments have been appearing in Dniprogorodsk. One of these is a low-voltage instrument factory. Its output goes to various Soviet customers, and is also exported to 53 countries. Dniprogorodsk scientists carry out by remote-control examination of the region of the Yenisei and the Kramoyarsk reservoir at the head of the IIEP, study the region's ecology, and monitor the environment.

Growing with the residential quarters are new schools, kindergartens, and clinics. The young city is writing its own history.

JUNIPER FORESTS OF UZBEKISTAN

The juniper forest planted in the spurs of the Balaun mountain range in Uzbekistan (Central Asian republic) has become the guardian of cotton fields. It was noticed long ago that places where Alpine juniper is growing have more rainfall. Stocks of water accumulated in the ground by junipers feed hundreds of springs supplementing the water resources of the Balaun River.

Right up to the thirties the juniper forests in Central Asia were being felled. For a long time the losses were considered to be irretrievable: juniper is a most never recovered and growing it in nurseries has proved impossible. However, now the technology of artificial reproduction has been worked out and specialized nurseries for the production of seedlings have been set up in all the Alpine forestries.

The areas of mountainous forests, which now cover 500,000 hectares in Central Asia will double in the next five-year period.

The construction and maintenance of the railroad will be carried out in extremely severe climatic conditions, with frosts reaching 65°C. This is an area of blanket permafrost and congealed ice which adds to the difficulties to be surmounted.

LITERATURE'S MAIN TASK

Multicultural literatures of our country strive for the same light and have one direction, opines Byelorussian writer Alex Adamovich in the LITERATURNAYA GAZETA column, Monologue About Time and Man. The saving of life on our planet is their common and main theme, task and idea.

Man can live only on a live Earth. This is what the prose of Russian Valentin Rasputin and Viorik Astashev, Armenian Grant Matosyan implore and cry for. So do the works of Moldavian Ion Drutse, Ukrainian Oles Gonchar, Kirghiz Chingiz Aitmatov and others.

Various ethnic literary works have their own traditions and various genres have their specific character. But this one — the saving of the very foundations of existence — concerns all without exception. So far as this is concerned, neither place of action, nor ethnic peculiarities, nor genre can justify a deal and blind literature or writer.

CRITICISM—MEDICINE OF ART

The magazine JOURNALIST organized a discussion in which playwrights, artists and critics reflected on theatrical criticism. Lyudmila Chursina, a well-known drama actor, expressed her views on this issue.

As an actress, writes Chursina, I value criticism first of all, for sincerity and benevolence. I think that criticism must contain a moment of some collaboration with those you are writing about. The initial striving is to help and not catch out, to go into the matter and substantiate why this or that did not come out properly. "A critic must strive not for self-expression but for

the expression of the purpose that made him take his pen. Perhaps, the more a critic departs from his own self for the sake of what he is writing about — the more he deserves respect. The main thing for a journalist is to be sensitive and capable for endurance. In fact, there are no synonymous phenomena. And the task of a critic is to understand a sense of obliquity in life, to find in himself a notion as "medicine" in the protection of the human organism, the body and the spirit. So, criticism must be the medicine of art.

SKIN PATTERNS

The newspaper SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes about dermatoglyphics, a science studying skin patterns of palms and feet.

The peoples of ancient Orient were the first to draw attention to palm signs. Fingerprints used in place of signatures have come down to us. But skin patterns tell much more. The designs of palms and feet, found among different peoples, have their own peculiarities. For instance, among those who live in Europe, North Africa and Americans of European origin, loops in palms turn up more often than ringlets. By finger patterns one can tell even the sex of a person.

Dermatoglyphics as a science is comparatively young. However, there is no doubt that its methods will soon be used more widely in medicine as well. By the patterns of skin relief of palms and feet, it is already possible to know about some hereditary diseases and, correspondingly, about the health of future children of a young married couple. In some obstetric clinics, dermatoglyphic advice bureaux the imprints of skin patterns are used as an auxiliary means. During medical check-ups, concludes the newspaper.

Places to visit



Places of the Alexandrovsky Garden near the Moscow Kremlin (1810-1820). • The fence of the Krasnaya museum-reserve (erected in the 18th century).

Open-work fences

In the plan of pre-revolutionary Moscow there were two streets five lanes named Kuznetskiy. They reminded the name of one of the most widespread types of Moscow crafts — forging in smithy.

In smithies made by Russian smiths are known from the 16th century, when apart from they made kettles to cook a special frying-pans for pro- sals from brine by evaporation, door locks with keys, iron chains. Gradually, the smithies made by these crafts increased. A warrior used a axe, a pole-axe and a peasant — a sickle, scythe or a pitchfork; a carpenter —



A balcony of the Metropol Hotel (1909-1913).

a drill, a saw, a chisel, nails, and the blacksmith himself — an anvil, a hammer and pliers. Metallic forged articles were

also much in demand in everyday life. Moscow blacksmiths produced genuine art in fences and gates.

Science and technology

PREPARATIONS FOR COMPLEXIONS

Developed on the basis of molecular compounds — will help to combat the violation of metabolism.

Complexions, while non-toxic and safe for use, grab and metal particles with them, and make them less effective and harmful to the body of medical patients (now being tested). They will also be applied to the treatment of occupational diseases of workers in copper, cadmium and other metals. They will have to be with- out from the organism. They are useful in brain tu-

mours examinations, in determining the speed of kidney filtration and so on.

HALLEY'S COMET PHOTOGRAPHED

The Crimean Astro-Physical Observatory of the USSR Academy of Sciences has made the

first photographs of Halley's comet and sent them, together with its precise coordinates, to the International Centre at the California Institute of Technology, USA. The photographs observations carried out by the Crimean scientists will help correct and make more precise the routes of the space vehicles launched to meet the comet.

Medieval culture

The ascent in science, literature, arts and architecture, which began in the Middle Ages in Central Asia, and its role in the development of world culture — this was the subject-matter of a UNESCO international conference held recently in Alma-Ata, capital of Kazakhstan (a Union republic in the south of the USSR). It was organized by the Soviet Committee for Central Asian Civilization Studies and the USSR Academy

of Sciences. This scientific gathering was attended, along with Soviet orientalists, by scholars from Afghanistan, Hungary, the GDR, India, the USA and other countries.

The agenda of the conference contained a wide range of items dealing with the specific features in the development of language and literature, architecture and arts, links and mutual influence of culture of the peoples of Central Asia region in the 8th-17th centuries. They made an important contribution to world civilization. Discussed were also topics of cooperation among specialists in various countries of the world in preparing a multivolume UNESCO publication, "History of Civilization in Central Asia".

NAMED AFTER INDIRA GANDHI

A Place of Culture at the Capital of Soviet Uzbekistan industrial association, Tashkent, has been named after the outstanding Indian stateswoman, Indira Gandhi. A memorial has been set up in the Indian leader who died in 1984. Indira Gandhi was immensely popular in the Soviet Union. A sculpture of her portrait was unveiled there.

The Palace has been keeping a book with Indian students living in Tashkent. It is a frequent guests at the Palace's 40 club. It also helps amateur dancers to learn about the culture and history of their land.



Indian students at one of the friendship parties. • Young girls of the Malayda company.

VIEWPOINT

Aid from outer space

Irina GRISHINA, representative of the foreign relations board, USSR Ministry of Merchant Marine

"Search and Rescue at Sea" — is the motto of the 1985 World Day of the Sea to be marked by all countries at the end of September. This tradition is rooted in the decision of the 10th session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), which includes 127 states.

The motto of the Day of the Sea was not adopted by more chance: the 1979 international convention on search and rescue at sea — SAR-79 — worked out with the active participation of Soviet experts, came into force in June 1985. The aim of the convention is to set up a worldwide system of search and rescue at the seas and oceans for people in distress as a result of shipwreck and air crashes, irrespective of their nationalities.

A maritime rescue service was set up in the USSR long before the convention was adopted and effected more than 60 years ago. At present Soviet merchant marine ships and fishing trawlers work practically in all parts of the World Ocean. At SOS signal they change course at any given time and, having bad weather, assist the needy.

Prompt notification about disaster is highly important under present-day conditions. Therefore, in 1977 the USSR, the USA, France and Canada began joint work on the development of a system to save sinking ships and crashing planes by means of satellites. It is called COSPAS-SARSAT and incorporates the following aspects: emergency radio-buoys mounted on ships and planes and meant for transmitting information about disaster; artificial Earth satellites which receive SOS signals and transmit information to the ground stations for subsequent processing; information receiving points which geographically determine the scene of disaster and system control centres.

Practically the COSPAS-SARSAT system began operating in 1982, when on September 10 signals about the air crash of the aircraft CESSNA-172 were received from a Soviet artificial Earth satellite and the information receiving centre of Canada in the mountains of British Columbia. The pilot and the two passengers were saved.

Apart from the four countries which designed the system — Bulgaria, Britain, Norway, Finland and Sweden participated in testing it. The checking was done in various parts of the world from the Arctic to the Antarctic and in different climatic and natural conditions — in forests, mountains, deserts, on ice and on water. The tests confirmed the global character of the zone of action of COSPAS-SARSAT and the high accuracy of the automatic determination of disaster, coordinates. The system was assessed favourably by IMO and ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization), which recommended its use.

Though COSPAS-SARSAT is yet at the stage of experimental exploitation, during its extensive more than 160 rescue operations have been conducted, which prevented the death of over 500 people. This shows again that, with the goodwill of states with different socio-political systems, there are many possibilities of pooling efforts for the joint work — exploration of outer space for peaceful purposes.

Long-term cooperation programme

A long-term Soviet-Polish programme of scientific-technical cooperation has been signed in Warsaw. This document, outlining the strategic aims of cooperation between the USSR and Poland, is a basis for the elaboration of common policies for both countries in science and technology. The aim of the programme is all-round acceleration of scientific and technological progress, its close interaction with specialization and cooperation of production for 1985-1990 and subsequent years.

The programme provides for joint work in seven priority directions. It outlines concrete problems to be fully solved — from joint research and scientific-technical developments to production and mutual deliveries of goods. It has been planned that between 1985 and 1990 a number of new types of machines and equipment, as well as control and measuring equipment will be worked out jointly.

UN-sponsored international seminar of geriatrists in Kiev

A UN-sponsored seminar on the problem of ageing has ended in Kiev. It was held at the Kiev Institute of Gerontology, Europe's largest research centre for studying and spreading the experience of work to ensure active longevity, which coordinates the activities of all similar institutions in the Soviet Union and European socialist countries. It is a base of the World Health Organization and has often hosted international forums.

During the ten-day seminar representatives of 27 developing countries were familiarized with the achievements of socialist countries in organizing, saving and encouraging labour activities of senior citizens. Prominent Soviet scientists shared with the participants the experience accumulated in their studies and briefed them on the work of clinics, laboratories and a number of specialized institutions.

The United Nations' decision to hold the international seminar in the Ukrainian capital of Kiev, is evidence of its high opinion of Soviet science and the efforts of the state to further improve the medical and social security of elderly people, said Anatoly Tokar, chief of geriatrics of the Ministry of Public Health of the Ukraine.

The participants in the seminar also discussed the problems of social policy concerning the family and the labour activities prolonging the life of the elderly. They also heard a number of lectures by UN scientific consultants.

